

Coordinating Center Report

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Abstract This report summarizes the activities of the IVS Coordinating Center during the year 2013 and forecasts activities planned for the year 2014.

1 Coordinating Center Operation

The IVS Coordinating Center is based at the Goddard Space Flight Center and is operated by NEOS (National Earth Orientation Service), a joint effort for VLBI by the U.S. Naval Observatory and the NASA Goddard Space Flight Center.

The mission of the Coordinating Center is to provide communications and information for the IVS community and the greater scientific community and to coordinate the day-to-day and long-term activities of IVS.

The Web server for the Coordinating Center is provided by Goddard. The address is

<http://ivscg.gsfc.nasa.gov>.

2 Activities during 2013

During the period from January through December 2013, the Coordinating Center supported the following IVS activities:

- Directing Board support: Coordinated, with local committees, two IVS Directing Board meetings, in

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Coordinating Center

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Metsähovi, Finland (March 2013) and Potsdam, Germany (September 2013). Notes from each meeting were published on the IVS Web site.

- Meetings: Coordinated, with the Local Committee, the seventh IVS Technical Operations Workshop, held at Haystack Observatory in May 2013. Chaired the Program Committee for the meeting.



Fig. 1 Logo of the seventh IVS Technical Operations Workshop.

Coordinated, with the Local Committee, the eighth IVS General Meeting, to be held in Shanghai, China in March 2014. Chaired the Program Committee for the meeting.

- Communications support: Maintained the Web pages, e-mail lists, and Web-based mail archive files. Generated analysis reports and included them into the 24-hour session Web pages. Maintained Intensive session Web pages.

- Publications: Published the 2012 Annual Report in summer 2013. Published three editions of the IVS Newsletter in April, August, and December 2013. All publications are available electronically as well as in print form.
- Observing Program Committee (OPC): Coordinated meetings of the OPC to monitor the observing program, review problems and issues, and discuss changes.
- 2013 Master Schedule: Generated and maintained the master observing schedule for 2013. Coordinated VLBI resources for observing time, correlator usage, and disk modules. Coordinated the usage of Mark 5 systems at IVS stations and efficient deployment of disk modules.
- 2014 Master Schedule: Generated the proposed master schedule for 2014 and received approval from the Observing Program Committee.
- VGOS: Supported the activities for establishing the VLBI Global Observing System (VGOS) through participation in the VLBI2010 Committee (V2C) and the VLBI2010 Project Executive Group (V2PEG).

3 CONT14 Campaign

The Continuous VLBI Campaign 2014 (CONT14) is being organized for observation in early May 2014. Sixteen IVS stations (see Figure 2) will observe for 15 consecutive days at a rate of 512 Mbps from 6 - 20 May 2014. The observing will be done on the basis of UT days with each CONT14 day running from 0 UT to 24 UT. UT day observing will allow for the most accurate combination and comparison of results with other techniques.

The Coordinating Center, in collaboration with the OPC, is responsible for:

- the overall planning and coordination of the campaign,
- the media usage and shipment schedule, and
- the preparation of the detailed observing schedules and notes.

More information about the CONT14 campaign can be found on the IVS Web site under the URL <http://ivscc.gsfc.nasa.gov/program/cont14>.



Fig. 2 Geographical distribution of the sixteen CONT14 sites.

4 Staff

The staff of the Coordinating Center is drawn from individuals who work at Goddard. The staff and their responsibilities are listed in Table 1.

Table 1 IVS Coordinating Center staff.

| Name | Title | Responsibilities |
|----------------|-------------------------------|--|
| Dirk Behrend | Director | Web site and e-mail system maintenance, Directing Board support, meetings, publications, session Web page monitoring |
| Cynthia Thomas | Operation Manager | Master schedules (current year), resource management and monitoring, meeting and travel support, special sessions |
| Frank Gomez | Web Manager | Web server administration, mail system maintenance, Data Center support, session processing scripts, mirror site liaison |
| Karen Baver | General Programmer and Editor | Publication processing programs, LaTeX support and editing, session Web page support and scripts |
| Kyla Armstrong | Data Technician | Publications support and Web site support |

5 Plans for 2014

The Coordinating Center plans for 2014 include the following:

- Maintain IVS Web site and e-mail system.
- Publish the 2013 Annual Report (this volume).

- Coordinate, with the local committee, the eighth IVS General Meeting to be held in Shanghai, China in March 2014.
- Support Directing Board meetings in 2014.
- Coordinate the 2014 master observing schedules and IVS resources.
- Publish Newsletter issues in April, August, and December.
- Support the VGOS activities within the V2C and the V2PEG.